

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-3 (canceled).

Claims 4-5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~[[The]] A high-hat stand according to Claim 4,~~

comprising:

an upper rod member with a movable cymbal at one end thereof and an external thread formed at another end thereof;

a lower rod member with a foot pedal connected at one end thereof and an external thread formed at another end thereof;

a connecting nut that threadably connects said another end of said upper rod member to said another end of said lower rod member; and

an upper nut member that is disposed near said another end of said upper rod, said upper nut member coming into contact with said connecting nut when said upper rod member and said lower rod member are connected by said connecting nut, said upper nut member being provided with an elastic section that is compressed upon connection of said upper and lower rod members and undergoes elastic recovery upon separation of said upper and lower rod members;  
and

wherein said elastic section is comprised of a cylindrical block that is provided on an end surface of said upper nut member so that said cylindrical block is disposed between said upper nut member and said connecting nut when said upper and lower rod members are connected.

Claim 7 (original): The high-hat stand according to Claim 6 further comprising a reinforcing plate attached to said cylindrical block so that said cylindrical block is disposed between said upper nut member and said connecting nut when said upper and lower rod members are connected.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~[[The]] A high-hat stand according to Claim 4,~~

comprising:

an upper rod member with a movable cymbal at one end thereof and an external thread formed at another end thereof;

a lower rod member with a foot pedal connected at one end thereof and an external thread formed at another end thereof;

a connecting nut that threadably connects said another end of said upper rod member to said another end of said lower rod member; and

an upper nut member that is disposed near said another end of said upper rod, said upper nut member coming into contact with said connecting nut when said upper rod member and said lower rod member are connected by said connecting nut, said upper nut member being provided with an elastic section that is compressed upon connection of said upper and lower rod members and undergoes elastic recovery upon separation of said upper and lower rod members; and

wherein said upper nut member is formed from a material selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyurethane type elastomer, polyester type elastomer, natural rubber and a synthetic rubber.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The high-hat stand according to Claim [[4]] 6, wherein said cylindrical block is formed from a material selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyurethane type elastomer, polyester type elastomer, natural rubber and a synthetic rubber.

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